

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** July 15, 2014

**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging Congress to  
pass the GROW AMERICA Act,  
or similar legislation that would  
provide increased and stable  
funding for the Highway Trust  
Fund and other transportation  
and transit-related infrastructure  
projects

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chair Lynda Bell.

  
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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/smm



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** July 15, 2014

**FROM:**   
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8).

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(8)

7-15-14

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS THE GROW  
AMERICA ACT, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD  
PROVIDE INCREASED AND STABLE FUNDING FOR THE  
HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION  
AND TRANSIT-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

**WHEREAS**, transportation contributes immensely to the nation's economy, and investments made to the national transportation network have helped the United States build the world's largest economy and most mobile society; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Trust Fund, which supports a significant portion of the nation's construction and repair of our surface transportation system, will be insolvent before the fall of 2014, and just a few weeks later, the authorities that establish our surface transportation programs will expire; and

**WHEREAS**, without action, many states and local governments may be forced to slow or stop work on critical transportation projects that move people, energy, and freight every day, putting jobs at risk and slowing investment in our future; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Transportation has introduced a bill for consideration entitled the Generating Renewal, Opportunity, and Work with Accelerated Mobility, Efficiency, and Rebuilding of Infrastructure and Communities throughout America Act, or GROW AMERICA Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the GROW AMERICA Act would, among other things:

- (1) provide a four-year authorization of federal highway, transit and rail programs at an increased funding level of \$302 billion;
- (2) establish an Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center designed to reduce project delivery time;

- (3) prevent new Metropolitan Planning Organizations from being designated within metropolitan statistical areas already served by an existing Metropolitan Planning Organization and require coordinated planning and performance target-setting in those areas already served by multiple Metropolitan Planning Organizations;
- (4) authorize the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to identify a subset of Metropolitan Planning Organizations serving areas of 200,000 and above as “higher performing MPOs” based on a set of established criteria;
- (5) establish a Critical Immediate Investments Program to reduce the number of structurally deficient bridges on the interstate system, target safety investments on non-state-owned roads, and support a state of good repair on the National Highway System; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida, Miami-Dade County, and various other political subdivisions of the State rely on continued federal support to ensure that residents have access to well-maintained and safe roads, highways, bridges, and rail systems; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would like to express its support for the GROW AMERICA Act, or similar legislation,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

**Section 1.** Urges Congress to pass the GROW AMERICA Act, or similar legislation that would provide increased and stable funding for the Highway Trust Fund and other transportation and transit-related infrastructure projects.

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and the United States Secretary of Transportation.

**Section 3.** Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2014 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Chair Lynda Bell. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman  
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro  
Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Sally A. Heyman  
Jean Monestime  
Sen. Javier D. Souto  
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
Audrey M. Edmonson  
Barbara J. Jordan  
Dennis C. Moss  
Xavier L. Suarez

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

MSM

Michael J. Mastrucci